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Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea

Note by the Chair

The Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea has the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 27 July 2011 addressed to him by the Coordinator of the Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea (see annex).

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Annex

In reference to the letter of the Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea dated 20 June 2011, by which the Group transmitted its final report (see S/2011/433) to the Chair of the Committee, the members of the Group would like to bring to the attention of the Committee the following.

In conformity with the guidance provided to us by the Committee on several occasions, we endeavoured to include as much of the testimony and evidence as possible in our final report. Given the scope of the Monitoring Group's mandate, covering both Somalia and Eritrea, this resulted in a report of exceptional length. However, General Assembly resolutions on the control and limitation of documentation, in particular resolutions 52/214 of 22 December 1997, 53/208 of 18 December 1998 and 59/265 of 23 December 2004, necessitated the extensive use of annexes, rendering the structure awkward and complex and preventing much of the substance from being translated. The extensive use of annexes was necessary despite the granting of a waiver by the Secretariat, which enabled the Group to go significantly beyond the 10,700-word limit applicable to reports not originating in the Secretariat.

We therefore recommend that the Committee seek a solution to balance the complex and sometimes contradictory demands on the Group by the Committee, the General Assembly and the Secretariat with respect to report length, format, content and schedule.

The Group would be grateful if the present letter could be issued as a document of the Committee.

(*Signed*) Matt **Bryden**
Coordinator
Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group
Security Council resolution 1916 (2010)